

**Approved Minutes of the OS&R Committee Meeting  
Monday, Oct 21, 2013 at 7:30 PM  
Rockport Public Library**

**Members in attendance:** Lawrence Neal (LN), Peter Van Demark (PV), Stephanie Cunningham (SC), Ted Tarr (TT)

**Members not in attendance:** None

**Other people in attendance:** Matt Cegelis Rockport ROW committee

**7:35PM Meeting called to Order**

**Open Session:**

Matt Cegelis attended and has read the Rockport Open Space and Recreation Plan. He brought with him the goals from the plan that is associated with the ROW committee. We discussed the communication between the two committees. It was noted that it was better when a ROW member was part of our committee. We invited a member of the ROW to join our committee. He is interested in being that person and will discuss it with the ROW committee

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by LN and seconded by SC to approve the August 5, 2013 meeting minutes as amended. The motion passed on a 4/0 vote.

**Grants for recreation fishing:**

SC works for Massachusetts Marine Fisheries. She said that recreation grant money is available through them. Each year some of that money is for recreational fishing access point projects. Supporting them is a significant part of their efforts. Their Deputy Director, located in the Gloucester office, is always in search of those projects and each year has trouble finding enough of them to act on. The grants can cover small projects like adding lights to an existing area up to larger projects of building new access piers.

SC also noted that no friendlier water shed signs inviting walkers had been put up in relation to the deep rock well project yet. The project is still working out land access issues

**Land Protection activates:**

The land overlooking Cape Hedge Beach on South Street was accepted at the fall town meeting A deed is being developed by the owners lawyer for the TA.

An open house and trail clearing day at the conservation land on Pigeon Hill St. and Johnson was held. Much supported by the DPW, neighbors and ConCom members to mark and clear trails and add some onsite parking.

There is any many pieces of property now in the BOS office for discussions. Essex County Green Belt has joined the activity on two parcels

**OSR plan review:**

SC has found several changes in Section 4. These include added identified vernal pools, changes in the invasive species listings, establishment of Scenic Byway through Rockport and the recent update by the State of Massachusetts to *BioMap2*.

<http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/dfg/biomap2.htm> . She has completed updating the section. PV has updated the Bio maps. SC noted that related to covering wildlife corridors the plan only discusses them in relation to birds. She will rough out something about other types of animal corridors.

**GIS mapping:**

PV explained the practice of not publishing trails that cross private parcels. He will send a map to Matt that does show these trails for the ROW committee to review. This can help them address future trail blocking issues before they happen.

**Future Meeting Dates and Topics:**

18 Nov 2013 meeting: Continue Plan update

9 Dec 2013 meeting: Update the "Parcels of High Interest", list top (5-10) actions to pursue

13 January 2013 meeting: Update the "Parcels of High Interest", list top (5-10) actions to pursue

**Motion to Adjourn:**

9:10PM LN motioned to adjourn, PV seconded. Vote passed 4/0.

These minutes prepared by LN